

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION III 1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

Environmental Education Grant Profiles 2001

DELAWARE

Indian River School District - \$11,300 Connie Fannin, Route 2 Box 292G, Millsboro, Delaware 19966 Outdoor Education Center at Ingram Pond (302) 436-1070

The goal of this project is to provide students with field experience that will enhance and expand upon science instruction they have received in their elementary and middle school classrooms. Students will study ecosystems in and around Ingram Pond, collect data to determine the ecological health of the pond and formulate the impact human behavior has on the quality of the waterways.

MARYLAND

Calvert County Public Schools - Chesapeake/Patuxent - \$17,250

Thomas Harten, 1305 Dare's Beach Road, Prince Frederick, MD 20678 (410) 535-2960

Wild Beaches: A Performance Based Unit

The goal of this project is the development of a third grade curriculum on Wild Beaches. The students will learn about the important habitat types in the Chesapeake Bay natural beach ecosystem and how to take action to protect the fragile environments. The program reaches approximately 1,130 students.

Patuxent River 4-H Center - \$8,220 Jeffrey Piatt, 18405 Queen Anne Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 18405 (301) 390-7259 West Nile Virus Awareness Project

The project is to educate Southern Maryland schools and community groups with information about the West Nile Virus. Participants will actively learn about the life history of mosquitos including their life cycle, how they bite, how and where they breed, and how they spread the virus. By supplying complete and accurate information about this potentially deadly virus local communities can protect themselves from contracting the virus.

Customer Service Hotline: 1-800-438-2474

PENNSYLVANIA

Clarion Conservation District - \$3,800

Trudy Alexander, 265 Holiday Inn Road, Suite #2, Clarion, PA 16214 (814) 226-4070 Conservation Education Programs for Clarion County, PA

This project is an on-going conservation program dedicated to educate school students and community members on the conservation practices that are available to landowners and future landowners of Clarion County. A conservation tour will be developed for local landowners about conservation practices available to them through participating agencies. Through this educational effort both school age students and members of the community will be better informed about the opportunities available to them in the areas of wildlife and land conservation through government agencies and local nonprofit groups.

East Stroudsburg Area School District - \$3,168 Gail Kulick-Cummings, 1 Gravel Ridge Road, East Stroudsburg, PA 18301

(570) 223-6911

Resico Elementary School - Outdoor Educational Gardens

This outdoor classroom experience introduces students to environmental and mathematical standards while encouraging character education attributes of caring, responsibility, respect, fairness and citizenship. Students develop awareness and understanding of environmental issues, cycles, and how each effects the natural habitats. They utilize the gardens to address graphing, measuring, estimating and basic computation skills using various herbs and plants. In addition, the students will work collaboratively and cooperatively to create products for gifts to area senior citizen homes and surrounding community centers.

French Creek Outdoor Learning Center - \$4,585 Judith Acker, 18308 Broadway, Meadville, PA 16335

(215) 337-7305

Integrating Technology and the Environment in the French Creek Watershed

The French Creek Outdoor Learning Center will sponsor a one-day teacher education workshop focusing on integrating the environment and technology. Teachers will learn to use scientific equipment and various computer software to identify macroinvertebrates and other flora and fauna from the creek. The goal of this project is to educate teachers about French Creek as well as how to use technology to bring environmental education in the classroom. As an extension of the workshop, the scientific equipment will be made available for loan to other teachers.

Girls' Club of Allentown, Inc. - \$5,000

Deborah Fries, 1302 Turner Street, Allentown, Pennsylvania 18102 (610) 433-0093 "WE CARE" Program (Children Acting Responsibly Towards the Environment)

"WE CARE" program allows 125 inner-city girls, ages 5-18 years, to explore and learn how to sustain an urban ecosystem. Utilizing the established and successful Urban Community Garden as a learning environment, participants conduct hands-on experiments and activities to learn and understand the network of interactions that make up an ecosystem. They discover the ways plants, animals, and the non-living elements of our environment are all linked together and effact each other.

Philadelphia City Sail, Inc. - \$15,867 Rick LeFevre, P.O. Box 43235, Philadelphia, PA 19129 Schoolship Education Program

(215) 271-3400

The Schoolship Education Program teaches inner-city children, grades 5 through 8 about local urban environmental issues and the importance of education. The students observe the Delaware River from a 75-ft topsail schooler sailing along the Delaware River. Hands-on activities and curriculum topics

a 75-ft. topsail schooner sailing along the Delaware River. Hands-on activities and curriculum topics include soils, water cycle, ecological concepts pollution and waste management. The project will inspire the students to take action and resolve problems that contribute to the deterioration of the river.

Northeast Sustainable Energy Association - \$5,000 Chris Mason, 50 Miles Street, Suite 3, Greenfield MA 01301 (413) 774-6051 Educator's Conference: Energy and the Environment

This project will hold a 2-day Educator's Conference for over 42,000 educators throughout the Mid-Atlantic States, New York and New England. The conference will take place in the Philadelphia area. The emphasis is to stimulate pollution prevention by influencing teacher's technological choices and consumer behavior in heating, lighting and transportation. The conference will also help teachers engage students in quality environmental education through the use of educational resources and programs on the themes of energy efficiency, renewable energy, clean transportation technologies and consumer energy.

School District of Philadelphia - \$3,735 Marcia Schulman, 2120 Winter Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103 (215) 299-7842 Hunter Elementary School - Adopts the Neighborhood

Adopts the Neighborhood project will encourage the student population from kindergarten to fourth grade to participate in a year-long Community Service Project. This project will direct the students' energies and develop students' personal commitments to improve their own environment. The grant project will have 4 major components: 1) to enlist student participation in the improvement and renewal of our school boundaries; 2) to develop a working relationship with neighborhood empowerment agencies to promote student leadership; 3) to provide the opportunity for students to explore urban and suburban neighborhoods in surrounding townships through field trips to a variety environmental nature centers; and 4) to attend the Philadelphia Flower Show to give the students the knowledge and encouragement that will challenge them into entering the Junior Philadelphia Flower Show.

Temple University - \$5,000

Robert J. Mason, 330 Gladfelter Hall, 1115 W. Berks Street, Philadelphia, PA 19122 (215) 204-4483

Delaware Canal State Park Regional Environmental Education Program

This project will fund the development of an Environmental Studies course. The course will provide an introduction for all constituencies that will be participating in the developing of the new Forks of the Delaware River Education Center, to be located in Easton. The project includes a substantial on-line component and will integrate ecological and cultural perspectives on river basin interpretation and management.

The Village of Arts and Humanities - \$10,000

Lily Yeh, 2544 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19133

(215) 225-9305

Teen Environmental Leadership Internship Program

This project will provide summer and after school internships in environmental leadership for minority teenagers living in inner-city North Philadelphia to increase the students understanding of local and global environmental issues; expose students to horticulture and environmental landscaping; encourage environmental leadership and activism and influence environmental career choices. Participants in the program are 30 students, ages 13 to 19.

Wildlands Conservancy - \$4,923

Barbara VanClief, 3701 Orchid Place, Emmaus, PA 18049

(610) 965-4397

Nature in the Parks

This project addresses the issue of access to environmental education programming for inner-city children who have significantly less exposure to environmental issues than children who reside in affluent areas. This project underwrites the cost of participation in Wildlands Conservancy's **Nature-in-the-Parks** Program for children from center city social agencies including Sixth Street Shelter, Volunteers of America Children's Center, Salvation Army and Boys and Girls Club. The program is taught in the city parks during week-long sessions of two hours per day, using experienced naturalist/educators working with small groups of approximately 15 children.

VIRGINIA

City of Hampton - \$24,885

Cheryl Copper, 22 Lincoln Street, Hampton, VA 23669

(757) 727-6325

Hampton Watershed Restoration

This project's concept is to build environmental awareness by bringing the "home front to the waterfront", and to cultivate individual responsibility for keeping the area's waterways clean. The objectives are to reduce lawn chemical use, promote planting vegetative buffers, water conservation and composting techniques. Residents understand that preserving and improving water quality is a vital community issue facing Hampton and its residents.

Eastern Shore Community College - \$14,607

Maureen Dooley, 293 Lankford Highway, Melfa, VA 23410

(757) 787-5941

SPARK: Shore People Advancing Readiness for Kindergarten

The objective of the "SPARK" Project is to help families prepare their pre-school age children understand their basic skills through environmental education. The parents, along with their children learn about the natural history of the Eastern Shore of Virginia through area field trips and hands-on nature activities.

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University - \$4,875 Pat Hobbs, 100 Sandy Hall, Mail Code 0360, Blacksburg, VA 24061 (540) 231-9373 Developing an Interactive Web-Based Education Tool for Encouraging and Understanding of the Ecosystems

This project will provide kindergarten to twelfth grade students, educators and volunteers that work with the students an easy access to Forest Inventory and Analysis Data which is only available to professionals. The goal is to empower students to seek solutions to improve their environment. This will be accomplished by creating a web site where students and their teachers can query an interactive map of counties, and receive answers to their various questions.

The River Foundation, Inc. - \$4,500 Jo K. Nelson, P.O. Box 8508, Roanoke, VA 24014 Environmental education for all ages

(540) 427-1880

This project is designed to teach students from kindergarten to ninth grade the importance of environmental stewardship and knowledge of environmental issues such as clean water, soil and air. Students gain hands-on experience with environmental testing techniques and learning to identify components of the environment. The goal of this project is to expose students to environmental science.

WASHINGTON, DC

The George Washington University - \$5,000 Helen Spencer, 2121 I Street, NW, Suite 601, Washington, DC 20052 (202) 994-6255 Impervious Surface Study

The goal of the project is to document the increase in land in Loudoun County covered with roads, parking lots, rooftops, and to inform citizens and elected officials of the potential impact on the stream flow and water quality. The data and analysis of the study is shared with citizens and elected officials who decide how they want to set public policy to shape the landscape of the county in the future.

District of Columbia Public Schools - \$25,000

Geraldine C. Okwesa, 410 - E Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002 (202) 698-4700 Stuart-Hobson Museum Magnet Middle School - School Reform and Teacher Training

This project will modify the current seventh grade Life Science and Pre-Algebra curricula to include an ecological and statistical study of pollution problems which affect how plants and animals live and thrive in rivers and tributaries in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. The curriculum changes will focus on increasing students' abilities to apply math skills in their science classes. Participants in the program are approximately 120 students.

WEST VIRGINIA

Cacapon Institute - \$5,000

(304) 856-1385

W. Neil Gillies, Route 1 Box 326, High View, West Virginia 26808 What's in a Watershed

This project will fund Watershed Stewardship Fairs (WSFs) for students in three high schools. The fair will increase student understanding of environmental issues, and enhance their ability to respond to issues in an informed manner, by focusing on water quality studies. The workshop is designed to foster critical thinking in forestry practices, agriculture Best Management Practices, drinking water quality, non point source pollution and conservation plants and animals.

Great Kanawha Resource Conservation and Development Area, Inc. - \$1,500 Jackie Moales, 418 Goff Mountain Road, Cross Lanes, WV 25313 (304) 965-1873 A Watershed of Wisdom: Blue Creek Watershed Association Environmental Education Project for Elementary Schools

The goal of the project is to educate teachers, students and the local community about watershed issues and the health factors affecting water quality. The program connects the students with their local environment through hands-on experiences in watershed assessments. EPA funding provides for the purchase of a Nonpoint Source EnvironScape Unit, Riparian kit, Groundwater kit and Watershed kits. Participants in the program include 6 teachers and approximately 225 students in grades 3-5.

Randolph County Schools - \$5,000 Carol Cain, 40 Eleventh Street, Elkins, WV Randolph County Outdoor Initiative

(304) 636-3421

The goal of this project is to educate 350 fifth grade county students the importance of environmental education and how environmental problems can be solved. Students will explore local waterways, forest, history, traditional folk art and resource management practices. The students develop a sense of responsibility and ownership for the preservation of the community.